SOUTH VIETNAMESE FORCES HAVE APPARENTLY ABANDONED GIA VUAN ISOLATED OUTPOST NEAR THE KONTUM - QUANG NGAI PROVINCE
BORDER WHICH CAME UNDER INTENSE COMMUNIST GROUND AND
ARTILLERY ATTACK LATE LAST WEEK. HELICOPTER RESCUE OPERATIONS ARE PLANNED TO PICK UP SURVIVORS OF THE GARRISON'S
387-MAN RANGER BATTALION DEFENSE FORCE.4

THE ABANDONMENT OF GIA VUC HAS BEEN UNDER CONSIDERATION SINCE NEARBY MINH LONG DISTRICT TOWN FELL INTO COMMUNIST HANDS IN MID-AUGUST. THE CAMP'S CIVILIAN DEPENDENTS WERE EVACUATED SEVERAL WEEKS AGO IN ANTICIPATION OF MAJOR DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:

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OUTGOING MESSAGE

COMINT

CHANNELS SCM 2 SECRET NOFORN SOURCE REF:

THE ELIMINATION OF GIA VUC WILL HELP THE COMMUNIST ATTACKS. COMMUNISTS SECURE THEIR HIGHLAND INFILTRATION CORRIDORS AND PROVIDE THEM WITH GREATER ACCESS TO THE RICE-RICH COASTAL LOWLANDS REGION.Y

ELSEWHERE IN THE NORTHERN PROVINCES, SOUTH VIETNAMESE MARINES THIS WEEKEND REPULSED A BATTALION-SIZED NORTH VIETNAMESE GROUND ATTACK NORTHWEST OF HUE NEAR THE THUA THIEN - QUANG TRI PROVINCE BORDER. BOTH SIDES WERE SUPPORTED BY MASSIVE ARTILLERY, ROCKET, AND MORTAR FIRE. THE MARINES CLAIM TO HAVE KILLED 247 COMMUNISTS WHILE SUSTAINING ONLY RELATIVELY LIGHT CASUALTIES THEMSELVES. HEAVY GROUND FIGHTING WAS ALSO REPORTED BY ARVN AIRBORNE AND INFANTRY UNITS IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE . E-2 IMPDET .A 25X1A9a

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